

## Academic Excellence forms strong foundation for nursing students

Today's nursing students are very busy people. And well they should be. They're preparing to enter perhaps the most complex health-care delivery system in history.

Fortunately, the MU Sinclair School of Nursing has sewn together a rich tapestry of academic programs that covers a diverse and dynamic student body. From nurses in rural Missouri pursuing their bachelor's degrees to nursing doctoral students working with multidisciplinary research teams, the school's outstanding programs are putting educational goals within reach for hundreds of today's and tomorrow's nursing professionals.

"The school has a full scope of programs," says Dean Rosemary Porter. She is particularly proud of the school's recent move to online educational programs, allowing "place-bound" students to earn degrees while remaining in their jobs and communities.

By offering a wide array of academic programs, the dean explains that the school is responding to "the need for an educated group of knowledgeable workers in hospitals throughout the state. We have to prepare nurses to be problem-solvers and continue to attract the best and brightest to nursing careers. By doing this, we're helping to ensure that the citizens of Missouri will have top-quality health care provided by professionals who are highly educated and understand the clinical needs of various populations."

This is particularly important when considering the current shortage of both clinical nurses and faculty/researchers. According to the American Nurses Association, Missouri is one of the hardest hit states in the current crisis.

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

These are indeed tenuous times in health care and the nursing profession, yet at the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, our enthusiasm is high and our enrollment has stayed strong. When the demand for nursing care nationally seems to be ever growing, and when fewer and fewer students are electing to go into the profession, we are proud to say that our freshman applications for nursing have actually increased in 2001! I attribute much of our success to the new face of nursing, one that has shown students glimpses of the exciting ways in which nurses today are having momentous impacts on health care, both here and abroad.

Coupled with the excitement of achieving our 10-year accreditation rating from CCNE, we are also pleased to be enjoying the largest growth in our research and development efforts in the history of the school.

We are continually striving for new and better ways to involve our nursing students into the fabric of our University Health Care System. This year, as you will read, we enjoyed our first Annual Nursing Week and Ball, both of which were a huge success that contributed greatly to the growing spirit of enthusiasm and rejuvenation, which we are experiencing. At the school, the students are so important that I have inverted the organizational chart to put them at the top! It is then, and only then, that we all realize our mission centers on them.

We must not lose sight of the spirit that propelled us to want to go into nursing in the beginning. That spirit was clearly evident at our recent 11th Annual Nursing Banquet and Awards Ceremony in May, when we set a record for attendance at more than 265 guests. The caliber of nurses honored is unsurpassed, and the vast array of areas available to them continues to grow, as our pioneers in research and education show our students firsthand all the career paths that are now possible for them.

For this reason, this issue focuses on Excellence in Academics in our undergraduate and graduate programs, and the wide range of opportunities and options that nursing education today is offering students at the School of Nursing. From our newly funded undergraduate faculty-mentored research program to our Nursing Scholars; from our progressive RN-BSN online outreach option and our online MS degrees to our co-op PhD program; from our internal hands-on opportunities for experiencing research to our opportunities for our students to travel abroad and experience firsthand international health care – I think you will enjoy reading about the new face of nursing here at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

There has never been a time when our skills were more needed, when our strength will be more tried, nor when we can potentially have the greatest impact as nurses—as we can now. At the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, we are instilling that spirit of caring in our students, handed down from faculty and administration who believe passionately in what we do, to students who will honor us one day with their outstanding contributions in the field of nursing.

With warm regards,

*Rosemary T. Porter*

Rosemary T. Porter, PhD, RN  
Dean, MU Sinclair School of Nursing  
University of Missouri-Columbia



## NEWS BRIEFS

## DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Thank you to the 500-plus alumni who have supported the MU Sinclair School of Nursing over the past year. Your pledges and contributions, totaling more than \$170,000, continue to increase our annual support at record pace.

The school has established a Strategic Development Board to assist in its development efforts. Those in attendance at a May meeting were Sandra Shelley, Connie Yarbrow, Barbara Levy, Donna Smith, Eileen Dyer, Sheryl Feutz-Harter and Board Chair Sandra Doolin Aust, BSN '65.

Here is a sampling of how generous gifts are supporting the educational mission of the School of Nursing.

**Student Support-** More than \$65,000 in scholarships was awarded to students during the 2000-01 academic year. In addition, two undergraduate students will be spending their summer working with our faculty researchers through a new student mentoring project. This internship was made possible with funds from the provost's office and the generous support of Eileen Dyer, BSN '68.

#### **Faculty Chairs/Professorships-**

Three new tenure-track faculty positions have been funded from the state over the past year through Mission Enhancement. The school hopes to add five additional faculty positions through private support.

**Programs-** Our Nursing Outreach and Distance Education Program (NODE), in conjunction with Professor Marilyn Rantz, will present a series of seminars throughout the state to inform nursing home care providers on the topic of sepsis. This project is being funded from the newly created Vivian Snell Fund, which provides funds for research projects involving older adults.

**Facilities-** New LCD machines have



*More than 20 alumni and friends gathered in the home of Sandra Aust on April 18 for an update on the progress of the school. From left are Ann Kellett, Mary Ann Clark, Linda McEwen, Nelda Godfrey, Eileen Dyer, Gary Godfrey and Dee Esry.*

been installed in four classrooms during the past year. In addition, a task force has been established to provide recommendations for new equipment to be used in the Skills Assessment Laboratory. Construction is well under way on the fourth floor renovation, and future renovations in the school will include the student lounge, third floor and classrooms.

For more information on how to support the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, please contact our development office at (573) 884-2690. In addition, visit our recently redesigned Web site at [www.muhealth.org/~nursing/](http://www.muhealth.org/~nursing/) for the latest updates on the school.

### **MU SCHOOL OF NURSING RECEIVES ACCREDITATION**

The MU Sinclair School of Nursing is proud to announce its formal accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The initial accreditation from the National League for Nursing was granted for the BSN program in 1960 through 2000 and, the

master's initial accreditation was from 1970 to 2000.

Starting in 2001, both programs received this new honor that bestows the CCNE's highest ranking of a 10-year accreditation to the school for both its baccalaureate and master's degree programs in nursing.

Rose Porter, dean, says, "I am justifiably proud of our faculty, staff, students and alumni who worked hard to maintain the standards of excellence that allowed us to garner this status. By continually striving to improve in everything we do, the School of Nursing is not only emerging as a major factor as an educational and research entity, but also is enjoying growth and prosperity at a time when nursing is facing significant challenges. While others are experiencing drops in enrollment, ours is up, and the spirit and enthusiasm in the building is running high."

The School of Nursing currently has an enrollment of 679 students for fall 2001. MU has attained the most desirable ranking given to the nation's research universities by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Doctoral/Research Extensive.



## NEWS BRIEFS

## DOCTORAL STUDENT RECEIVES RESEARCH AWARD

Mei Fu, a doctoral student at the MU Sinclair School of Nursing, received first place for her poster/presentation on fatigue at the recent Missouri Symposium on Women's Health Research. She will receive a certificate and a monetary prize for her winning entry titled, "A Multivariate Validation of the Defining Characteristics of Fatigue." Fu obtained a BSN in 1997 and a master's degree in 2000. Currently she is a full-time staff nurse in the cardiac intensive care unit at University Hospital.

The symposium was a kickoff event for a joint faculty initiative to develop a Center for Excellence in Women's Health at MU and will become an annual event during Research Day ceremonies. The program was spearheaded by Meredith Hay, associate professor of veterinary medicine. Jane Armer, associate professor of nursing, was a member of the inaugural multidisciplinary planning group for the initiative. Nancy Fugate Woods, dean and professor at Washington School of Nursing, was keynote speaker. Armer also presented on the topic of "State-of-the-Art Lymphedema Management and Research."

## NURSING WEEK A HUGE SUCCESS

The Nursing School Steering Committee organized and sponsored Nursing Week in March for the MU Sinclair School of Nursing student body. Weeklong activities and events included a Nursing Residence sponsored Cystic Fibrosis fund-raiser walk, which raised more than \$700; a Nursing Ball; Nursing Student Council-sponsored Nursing Olympics, in which six teams competed,



*Rose Porter, dean, on the left, and Meredith Hayes, associate professor of veterinary medicine, open Research Day at the newly formed Center for Excellence in Women's Health at MU.*

and a Student Nurses Association sponsored health fair at Shelter Insurance.

The Nursing Ball, under the direction and guidance of Nicole Hancox and Kayla Wright, both sixth semester nursing students, was held at the new Faurot Field Press Box and attended by more than 150 students, faculty and staff. This alcohol-free event featured music, dinner and dancing. The Nursing Ball was sponsored by the school's Nursing Scholars. These students have been admitted to MU's Honors College, which requires an ACT composite score of 29 and high school rank in the top 10 percent as entering freshmen. Nursing Scholars are expected to maintain a minimum cumulative MU 3.3 grade point average during the first four semesters and can expect to be granted automatic admission into the fifth semester clinical major.

The Nursing School Steering Committee, under the direction of sixth

semester student Katie Edlund, is made up of representatives of the school's Nursing Scholars, Nursing Student Council, Student Nurses Association, Nursing Residence and periodic participation by the RN-BSN students and Graduate Nurse Association. The newly established Nursing School Steering Committee coordinates the efforts and activities of all nursing organizations through open communication. The group is advised by the undergraduate academic adviser, Emily Holt Foerst.

## RESEARCH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES EXPANDED FOR UNDERGRAD NURSING STUDENTS AT MU

For two months this summer, for 30 hours per week, two MU Sinclair School of Nursing undergraduate students will be exposed to nursing research firsthand. Thanks to a new program offered through the school, students will work directly with a PhD Nursing faculty researcher to obtain an



## NEWS BRIEFS

invaluable look at this exciting dimension of the nursing profession. The program, entitled the Undergraduate Research Mentorship Program, aims to encourage and support undergraduate participation in faculty research. It is funded through money provided from the Office of the Provost with matching funding provided by the nursing school.

The program pairs faculty mentors and students to facilitate firsthand learning about the research process. MU is unique in the state in being able to offer this opportunity in a wide range of disciplines. It also embraces the University's commitment as a research intensive facility and counter-acts the notion that learning and research are mutually exclusive activities.

The first two students to take advantage of the plan are Natalie Goodin from Columbia, who will be working with Associate Professor Rebecca Johnson on her Hand and Paw Study; and Nicole Schultz, also from Columbia, who will work alongside Associate Professor Jane Armer in her study of lymphedema at Ellis Fischel Cancer Center. Schultz is a McNair Scholar who has shown a lot of interest in women's health studies. Her studies with Armer will consist of water displacement, perometry, and circumferential measurement.

Goodin was a recent nominee for the seventh semester student Award for Overall Excellence and last year's recipient of the fifth semester award. She will be working with Johnson in her human/animal bond studies, a collaborative study between Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, the MU Sinclair School of Nursing and the MU College of Veterinary Medicine which aims to ascertain how contact with canine visitors affects mood, perception of health and sense of coherence among cancer patients undergoing radiation therapy.

"We are elated to be able to take advantage of this promising pilot program. It will open new doors for our

undergraduate students and provide opportunities which are truly exemplary," says Rose Porter, dean.

The approved mission enhancement funds are designed to continue and expand gradually over the next three years. For its part, the School of Nursing is expected to match this commitment with its own funding to cover \$3,000 this year, \$5,000 in 2002, \$7,000 in 2003 and \$9,000 in 2004. To kick off the program for the school, Eileen Dyer, BSN '68, of St. Joseph, Mo., and a member of the Strategic Development Board, launched the first matching gift of \$3,000.

### MISSOURI'S ELDERLY BENEFIT FROM NURSING RESEARCH

Nurses from the MU Sinclair School of Nursing are working with the Missouri Division of Aging to help improve care for residents of long-term care facilities in Missouri. Based on research conducted at the school, the Quality Improvement Program for Missouri's Long-term Care Facilities (QIPMO) now provides free quality improvement consultation to long-term care facilities. Research sponsored by the Missouri Division of Aging shows that facilities that work with a nurse consultant can improve their resident outcomes.

Marilyn Rantz, professor, conducted a study in which an advanced practice nurse consulted with long-term care facilities in Missouri for a two-year period. At the end of the study, those facilities that regularly consulted with the advanced practice nurse improved care and outcomes for their residents.

Based on this research, MU QI nurses visit facilities across the state. The nature of the site visit is consultative to provide technical assistance to help improve clinical care and practices for older people in long-term care facilities.

These nurse consultants are not regulators or survey staff. The nurses contact both nursing and residential care facilities in advance to arrange a convenient time and to allow facilities an opportunity to schedule staff to be available to participate in the process. Facilities are encouraged to take time prior to the visit to consider what their facility does "best" and to share that information with MU staff. A primary function of this project is to identify "best practices" in facilities and make such information available to other facilities in the state.

By providing and discussing materials about methods and practices to each facilities' staff, the MU nurses can aid in the creation of each facility's internal quality improvement initiatives. Additionally, MU staff are available to provide up-to-date clinical information, as well as other requested information about specific areas of interest such as skin care, incontinence management, restorative care and other care improvements.

The Division of Aging and MU staff provide each nursing facility in the state with a "Show-me" Quality Indicator Report that illustrates how each facility is doing with resident care and how it compares to all other facilities in the state in areas such as falls, incontinence, skin, activity or medications. The MU QI nurses help the facility staff with interpreting the report and planning quality improvement activities. They also assist with interpreting the federal Quality Indicator Report that is provided to all facilities in the state and across the nation.

QIPMO has been operating for almost two years. During this time, MU QI nurses have assisted approximately 140 different facilities in the state of Missouri. The response from facilities has been resoundingly positive, and facilities have repeatedly asked for additional visits.



*Continued from cover*

# Academic Excellence

BY CONNIE MITCHELL

Porter notes that some nursing schools across the country have been forced to reduce their curriculum due to a lack of qualified nursing faculty. This is not the case at the MU Sinclair School of Nursing. In fact, the school plans to add new faculty positions and increase funding for undergraduate research experiences in the coming years.

"We're very fortunate that we've been able to maintain and even build upon our strengths without losing ground," Porter says. "We have everything available for students to gain and expand the skills necessary to fill this immense demand for qualified nursing professionals."

## STARTING OUT: THE BSN

Students just starting out in the nursing field come to the school to pursue the bachelor of science in nursing degree. For many health-care organizations and providers, nurses with this degree are highly desirable employees because they have proven their commitment to the field, investing four years in their preparation to enter the clinical realm.

The MU Sinclair School of Nursing's undergraduate program is one of the nation's best. Earlier this year both the school's baccalaureate and master's degree programs earned 10-year accreditations from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

Far from a rubber stamp, the accreditation process involves a comprehensive review of the program's standards and structure. It encompasses a site visit from four outside reviewers and an exhaustive self study, allowing faculty and administrators to assess the program's strengths and weaknesses, making adjustments where needed. When the reviews were in, the baccalaureate program was given a thumbs-up with virtually no changes required.

But the school's faculty will not rest on their laurels now that the CCNE has issued its blessing. Priscilla LeMone, associate professor and director of undergraduate studies, says that the school is involved in an ongoing review of its curriculum to ensure continuing excellence. "We look at many things to make sure that we stay current with the profession's standards and knowledge," she says. "We've always done that, which may explain why we were accredited without any major changes."

The only self-imposed curricular adjustment in the baccalaureate program involved the addition of a course in gerontological nursing, a field in which the school is gaining a reputation as a world leader.

Basic clinical courses are enhanced by access to the school's technology lab, a state-of-the-art facility housing 16 computers,

eight with multimedia systems and eight with Internet access. A nine-bed simulated hospital ward in the lab offers the students a place to practice with a myriad of hospital equipment including hydraulic lifts, blood-pressure cuffs, pulse oximetry

monitors and plastic hips that indicate nerves when giving intramuscular injections.

Beth Traudes, technology lab coordinator, says, "Our students can practice sterile technique, urinary catheterization, insertion of nasogastric tubes, ostomy care, intravenous therapy and so much more as they strive to perfect the psychomotor skills necessary to function as a professional nurse. Being able to take these skills and incorporate the critical thinking that partners with them is why these

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—ROBERT MEDLEY, BSN '01**

things are taught at a baccalaureate level. There is a wealth of professional nursing judgment involved that will be reinforced as they progress to the clinical sites."

Students put their practice to the test during the baccalaureate program's final clinical preceptorship, which provides a valuable chance to gain real-world experience under the watchful eye of a current nursing professional. "This is extremely helpful to students in terms of getting hands-on experience," says LeMone. "We often find that the students are able to immediately get jobs in the specific areas in which they completed their preceptorship."

Preceptors, who have been practicing for at least two years, are matched with students according to their areas of clinical interest. At University Health Care in Columbia or at other sites throughout the area, each student nurse spends 180 hours working with a preceptor in one of many clinical specialties.

"During this time the student begins to make the transition from a student-nurse role to a graduate-nurse role," says Cheryl Bausler, preceptorship coordinator. "By the end of the experience, the student should be able to assume most of the responsibility of care for a group of patients that the preceptor would normally be assigned."

For Robert Medley, who earned his BSN in May after a preceptorship in University Hospital's surgical intensive care unit,





*Instructor of Clinical Nursing Denise Mendenhall reviews introductory clinical practice with undergraduate nursing students in the skills laboratory.*

the experience was “intense” and “very conducive to learning.” He adds, “I feel I’ve been given many opportunities to be very well-prepared for clinical practice. By the end of the preceptorship, I had gained a lot of confidence and was able to take on many clinical tasks.” Medley is now a staff nurse in the neuro-trauma intensive care unit at Cox Medical Center South in Springfield, Mo.

Enriching their education even more, some undergraduates are following their penchant for developing new knowledge by participating in research internships during their summer breaks. Associate Professor Jane Armer is one faculty member who participates in this expanding program.

Armer’s research concerns lymphedema, an unpleasant side effect of cancer treatment, particularly in breast cancer patients. For 30 hours each week during the summer, undergraduate student Nicole Schultz worked in Armer’s lab, measuring lymph fluid volume in both breast cancer patients and a control group.

Armer is enthusiastic about the program and its goal of encouraging undergraduates to continue their studies. “Our student researchers are focused, disciplined, reliable, meticulous and curious,” she says. “I think the students find it very satisfying because they tend to have an innate interest in the topics they examine.”

“Through programs like this, we tie clinical and classroom

experiences together to move knowledge forward,” Armer continues. “The undergraduate research experience gives students perspective on how clinical nursing knowledge is developed. The students get a chance to understand the big picture. And by working with students from other disciplines, they understand the value of the multidisciplinary approach.”

While some undergraduate students conduct research, others travel abroad to learn about health care in other countries. The school’s Cultural Expeditions in Nursing course is designed to immerse students in diverse cultural settings. During the summer of 2000, sixteen undergraduates spent almost three weeks visiting clinical sites and nursing schools in Christchurch, New Zealand, and Sydney, Australia. Last May another group of nine nursing students traveled to Christchurch and Sydney where they learned about nursing care in hospitals and community settings.

Kathy Bowman, a clinical instructor for the course, explains that through study abroad students learn about the influence of culture on health and illness. “The nursing students begin to develop sensitivity to cultural differences and learn first hand the importance of considering patient care from the patient’s

point of view," she says.

By taking advantage of these and the many other opportunities for intellectual growth through the nursing baccalaureate program, several nursing students have been reaping public rewards. Katie Edlund, who plans to graduate in May 2002, is one such student.

Described by Emily Holt Foerst, the school's undergraduate academic adviser, as "an excellent communicator," "mature beyond her years" and "one of the school's star students," Edlund was one of six MU students chosen to attend LeaderShape, a national conference designed to help young people learn to lead with integrity.

As a participant, Edlund developed a vision and goals to enact in her junior and senior years. "My vision is to create a greater sense of community among students in the Sinclair School of Nursing by increasing unification and participation," Edlund says.

In fact, she's already made a giant leap toward realizing that vision by establishing the Nursing School Steering Committee. The organization's members come from the school's various student organizations and class representatives. Edlund says that the committee serves "as a bridge for communication between the current student organizations as well as nursing students of all levels." To this end, the committee is responsible for a biweekly student newsletter, coordinating all Nursing Week activities and a mentorship program between clinical and preclinical students.

Eventually, Edlund plans to pursue a master's degree, probably specializing as a pediatric nurse practitioner. She says that LeaderShape has allowed her to enrich her own education while creating a lasting legacy for future students.

Another noteworthy recognition came to an entire class of undergraduate students and their instructors almost a year ago when Head Start, a branch of the Central Missouri Human Development Corp., honored the students for their services. Under the guidance of Clinical Instructors Arlene Merrell and Kelly Moore, the students provided free health screenings to more than 200 mid-Missouri children.

Merrell says that the screenings are conducted each fall to provide services for children who need them as well as to help hone clinical skills for senior nursing undergraduates. "In addition to providing a community service, our students utilize age-appropriate teaching, communication and nursing skills. They learn that health promotion is a primary nursing role," she says.

## MOVING UP: THE RN-BSN

For many registered nurses across the state, getting a bachelor's degree at the MU Sinclair School of Nursing simply hasn't been an option, no matter how attractive the program. Jobs and family commitments keep these practicing nurses away from the MU campus. However, there are fewer reasons not to pursue a bachelor's degree now that the school offers an RN-BSN program completely online.

The school began using technology to bring its undergraduate program to nurses in rural areas in 1997 by telecommunicating courses via video conferencing. With the advent of online educational programs, the school saw an opportunity to increase its program's accessibility by discontinuing the telecommunication sites and moving all courses to the Internet.

Shari Kist is coordinator of the RN-BSN option, which is administered by the school's Office of Nursing Outreach and Distance Education and funded by a \$1.15 million, three-year grant from the federal Health Resources and Services Administration. Kist explains that the course content is similar to that of the previous telecommunicated program, but current students participate in weekly lessons and discussions from their own home computers via Web sites and message boards. Students who enter the program need only travel to the MU campus a couple of times each semester to hear guest speakers, present projects and demonstrate their physical assessment skills.

"Many of these students realize that they need at least a bachelor's degree to keep up with the demands of today's health-care environment," Kist says. "Most of the students are adult learners who have been practicing as RNs for a few years. Many have very responsible positions in their communities. All have said they could not possibly complete a BSN if they had to travel from their home site to campus on a regular basis." And although many of the RN-BSN students are in far-flung corners of Missouri, they bond as a class through their online communications.

The seven required courses in the RN-BSN program are available to nurses anywhere, although only two out-of-state students have participated so far. Kist says the school has received many interested responses to information that was sent to all RNs in the state.

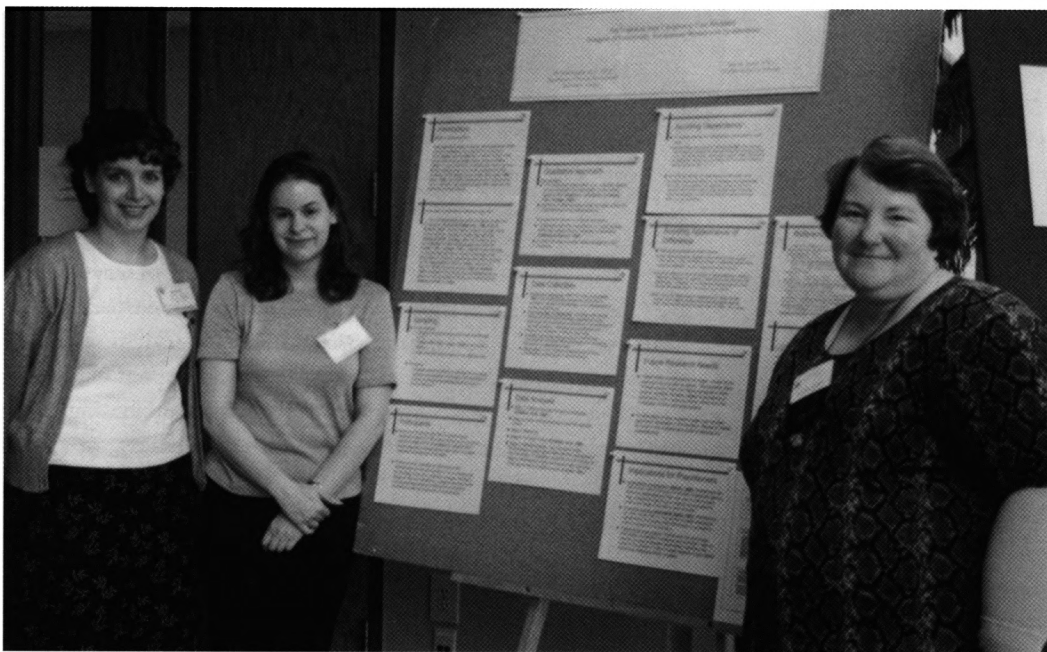
"We're striving to help students think differently about what they do and solve problems outside the typical technical knowledge they use on the job," Kist explains. "They have a chance to break old patterns that may not be entirely useful anymore and to explore opportunities for new and more responsible job opportunities."

Perhaps the most important benefit resulting from the RN-BSN program is enjoyed by residents of the rural and medically underserved areas where bachelor's degree-prepared nurses have been a rare commodity. "All of the graduates tend to remain and continue to practice in their home communities, thereby improving the health care of Missouri's citizens," says Kist.

## TAKING THE NEXT STEP: THE MS(N)

Beyond the bachelor's degree in nursing lies a whole array of opportunities to specialize. Students in the school's master's degree program may become nurse specialists, clinical nurse practitioners (choosing to focus on family, pediatric, gerontolog-





*Associate Professor Jane Armer and students display their research on lymphedema at a poster session during the symposium for Excellence in Women's Health.*

ical or mental health nursing), public health or school health nurses, nurse educators, or nurse administrators.

Of the approximately 150 students currently pursuing the nursing master's degree, the majority are being educated as nurse practitioners. Many of these students are completing their degrees using a combination of Internet-based and on-campus courses. Most students have to make two or three trips to the school each semester, and Roxanne McDaniel, associate professor and director of the master's degree program, says many look forward to these face-to-face encounters with faculty.

However, students enrolled in the mental health nurse practitioner and public health nursing programs need never set foot on the MU campus to attain their diplomas. The areas of study are totally available as Internet courses and are so convenient and flexible, even one student who lives in Korea is earning her degree from the school this way.

The new pediatric nurse practitioner program recently received a boost when it was awarded a federal grant that created a cooperative program with the University of Missouri-St. Louis and the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Each of the three campuses has developed an online course, which is offered to all students in the program. "This really helps us maximize our resources," says McDaniel. "And since there aren't extremely large numbers of students enrolled in the program at any one campus, we can pool our enrollment and work with a larger class."

McDaniel says that she has seen notable growth in the school's mental health nurse practitioner and public health nursing programs, with enrollment at least doubling in the past few years. In some cases, nurses who have already earned their

master's degrees as clinical nurse specialists or nurse practitioners return to school in order to become even more specialized. Again, the online option seems to be largely responsible for the recent enrollment boom.

In many geographic areas, master's degree-prepared nurses are in demand due to the current nursing shortage. Advanced practice nurses are particularly needed in primary care and in patient and nursing education settings.

"It's wonderful to see our students going out and practicing in so many crucially needed areas," McDaniel says. "We're very proud of the effect we can have on communities all over Missouri. For example, one of

our students has developed a wound and skin-care practice near Rolla. Another created an orientation and mentoring program to recruit and retain new staff at St. Mary's Health Center in Jefferson City.

"So not only are our graduate nurses skilled clinicians, but they've been given the tools they need to be entrepreneurial. They can see where the greatest needs are and skillfully fill those gaps," she says.

Nurse educators also find a wide-open job market awaiting them. This is part of the reason, McDaniel says, that about a quarter of the school's master's degree recipients opt to continue their education at the doctoral level, helping to fill the growing need for faculty and researchers at universities across the country.

"Another reason our master's students are so apt to enter the doctoral program is because we have an excellent program already available here, and our faculty are very helpful in advising promising students who are doctoral candidates," she says.

While more and more students are increasing their skills through graduate nursing education, the faculty who teach them are also branching out by providing expanded clinical services to the community. Faculty provide care to a variety of patients through student health services at Columbia College, University Nurses Senior Care and primary-care settings in the Columbia Public Schools.

## REACHING THE PINNACLE: THE PHD

"They are really enthused about learning to conduct research that will make a difference in people's lives. They're passionate about their work and show a strong interest in a particular population and that population's health issues," says Eileen Porter,

associate professor and co-director of the nursing PhD program, of the MU Sinclair School of Nursing's 33 doctoral students.

Porter points out that the typical nursing doctoral student isn't fresh out of the baccalaureate program, although that's not unheard of. (And Porter says there is a need for more young doctoral students who enter the program with a BSN degree. Such students can be productive researchers over the course of a long career.) Rather, these students usually have a strong base of clinical experience and keen insight regarding the population they plan to study in their dissertation work.

"This is the level at which true scholarly interests finally come together with practice," she says. Doctoral students focus on research in an interdisciplinary process. Yet nursing research is unique in the health sciences for its emphasis on family and community responses to illness instead of on the disease process itself. "Our students create the knowledge needed to enable people to care for themselves," Porter says.

Primary interest areas for doctoral candidates involve health promotion, health restoration and support, and health-care systems. Students choose one or two of these broad areas in which to focus their work. For instance, a student interested in health issues related to domestic violence would fall into the health promotion category, while research on cancer care would likely be part of the health restoration area.

In what Porter terms "a partnership of inquiry," students are mentored by faculty who help them understand the relationships between nursing practice, theory and research. It is the wealth of faculty knowledge that makes the school's doctoral program stand out, she says. Porter, who shares the job of directing the program with Larry Ganong, notes that many faculty have significant outside research funding.

Several doctoral students also have received external funding for research projects. Kathryn Burks, a spring graduate and now assistant professor at the school, used funding from the Missouri Foundation for Medical Research and a Predoctoral Nurse Fellowship from the Office of Academic Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs, to study self management of osteoarthritis. Her results support sharing patient information about self-care techniques with individuals who have the disease.

"I'm proud that I was able to add to nursing knowledge through this project," Burks says. "I enjoyed doing the research and felt like it was a wonderful addition to my classroom work."

Spotlighting their research achievements, nursing doctoral students from the University of Missouri campuses in Columbia, St. Louis and Kansas City conduct an annual research day to present their work. The third annual research day was held last March and featured a series of research roundtable discussions, a poster session and a keynote address on "Refining a Program of Research and Obtaining Pre-Doctoral Funding" by Linda Phillips, associate dean for research at the University of Arizona College of Nursing.

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Another opportunity for doctoral students to strut their research stuff also arrived last March at the 25th Annual Midwest Nursing Research Symposium in Cleveland, Ohio. Doctoral candidate Jane Bostick was one of three MU representatives at this year's MNRS where she presented a paper titled "Impact of Design Interventions on Nursing Home Residents."

"This was a great opportunity for me to present my first research project," Bostick says. As part of an interdisciplinary MU research team, Bostick has been examining the effect of several environmental changes in one Missouri nursing home on the residents, staff and family members. Bostick's predoctoral research is funded through an MNRS Dissertation Research grant, providing the funds needed to complete her dissertation on the "Effect of Nursing Personnel on Nursing Home Care Quality."

Having graduated in August, Bostick continues to teach in the school's undergraduate program and is pursuing funding

for research aimed at improving the quality of care for older adults, especially those with depression and dementia. "Having a doctorate gives me the opportunity to have a broader impact on policies affecting the practice of nursing and consequently on the health of older adults," she says.

Adds Porter, "As we work to develop the nursing science upon which we base our care, we raise the bar concerning best practices in both nursing research and nursing care."

## KEEPING IT FRESH: NURSING OUTREACH AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

The MU Sinclair School of Nursing is not only committed to providing the best education for undergraduate and graduate students. Learning is a lifelong process, and the school makes continuing education the stone on which many nursing professionals are sharpening their skills even further.

The school's Office of Nursing Outreach and Distance Education administers the online RN-BSN program and an



array of continuing nursing education programs. Conferences, institutes and short workshops are developed and organized by NODE staff under the direction of Assistant Dean Shirley Farrah.

"As a land-grant institution, the University has a strong outreach mission that we work hard to fulfill. We strive to serve nurses at all levels of practice throughout the state," Farrah says.

NODE is doing a good job at that. In the last full academic year, NODE offered 77 different continuing nursing education programs that served more than 2,000 individuals.

Programs range from an international conference on nursing theory for graduate-level nurses, educators and researchers to local seminars for school nurses regarding the management of anger and behavioral disorders in children. Other popular programs have focused on complementary health-care treatments and domestic violence. "It is through conferences such as these that I think we can really make a difference in Missouri's health care environment," Farrah says.

"When we identify the need for increased knowledge or see expanding interest in a particular area, we work to provide a program to address the topic," Farrah says. Yet she notes that such quick responsiveness wouldn't be possible without outside funding for the creation of new programs. Such external grant and contract funding increased by 212 percent from 1998-99 to 1999-2000.

## A CONTINUING TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

With so many outstanding programs serving nursing students and professionals, the future of nursing in Missouri looks bright. The MU Sinclair School of Nursing continues to provide a tradition of academic excellence while recognizing how changes in the profession call for new and expanded programs in the future.

"The school is like an organism," Dean Porter says. "It changes and grows as needed to maintain its strength. As health care systems and technologies change, we change with them to ensure that our graduates will provide truly exceptional care for the population."

And that's good news for nurses, the health-care teams with which they work, and, especially for the people of Missouri who can rest assured that care from an MU Sinclair School of Nursing graduate will be thorough, skillful and compassionate. It's a great tradition to continue.



*The Betty Crim Faculty Enhancement Award was presented to Beth Traudes, instructor in clinical nursing. This \$2,000 cash award was established in 1999 by Betty Crim to honor and recognize faculty excellence in undergraduate nursing education. Crim passed away last year, and the award was presented by members of her family. Pictured from left are Chris May and Becky Boedecker, BSN '88, nieces of Crim, Bonnie Boedecker, sister, Beth Traudes, Charles Crim, brother, and Cindy Sampson, niece.*

## New Graphic Unveiled

The School of Nursing has adopted a new identifying graphic. The graphic is in keeping with our efforts to update our image to match the new emerging face of nursing. It depicts the school name, while clearly aligning us with the University of Missouri-Columbia. Our aim was to create an easily recognizable image that we can use for publicity and promotions regarding the school, that reflected the new spirit of nursing today.

New lapel pins have also been designed to enable us to proudly wear our school name, and have been used to honor dignitaries and officials for their support of our school.

Look for the image on our Web site, in our literature and in our promotional and recruiting material.

MU **SINCLAIR**  
SCHOOL OF NURSING

## MU Sinclair School of Nursing and MU Nursing Alumni Organization Honor Nursing Achievement

Alumni, students, faculty and staff were honored at the 11th Annual Nursing Awards banquet May 3 at the Reynolds Alumni Center. The gala is held to recognize those individuals who have elevated the reputation, research, teaching and service in nursing.

Distinguished Friend of the School awards were presented to state Rep. Vicky Riback Wilson and Connie Henke Yarbrow.

Riback Wilson was elected to the Missouri House of Representatives in 1996 and has engaged in exploring the health needs of Missouri citizens. She sponsored legislation that made changes in the area of domestic violence and worked with the faculty to implement a statewide conference to strengthen health care's response to domestic violence. She is also working with the school's faculty to develop a multidisciplinary women's health initiative in the University of Missouri System.

Connie Henke Yarbrow is a clinical associate professor with the Department of Medicine and holds an adjunct clinical associate professorship with the MU Sinclair School of Nursing. She is editor-in-chief of *Seminars in Oncology Nursing*, and is one of the 25 founding members of the Oncology Nursing Society. Currently, she is president of the International Society for Nurses in Cancer Care. She has accepted an appointment to the Strategic Development Team at the school.

### RICHARD MADSEN RECEIVES FIRST INTERDISCIPLINARY FACULTY AWARD

The MU Sinclair School of Nursing presented a new award this year to Richard Madsen, professor in the Department of Statistics in the College of Arts and Science. The Interdisciplinary Faculty Award recognizes true collaboration in an interdisciplinary learning environment. It is designed to honor a faculty member from another discipline on campus who has demonstrated commitment to teaching excellence, who has made outstanding contributions to the nursing program, and has demonstrated support of the School of Nursing and to the nursing profession.

Madsen has taught both master's and doctoral students about the value of statistical analysis and its application to nursing research. Students indicate that he fosters a spirit

of inquiry that is extremely valuable for nursing students at all levels. He has been co-investigator on numerous research grants, and his expertise and wisdom are highly valued and deeply appreciated by nurse researchers.



MU Sinclair School of Nursing names Connie Henke Yarbrow, left, and state Rep. Vicky Riback Wilson Distinguished Friends for 2001.



Professor Richard Madsen, awarded first Interdisciplinary Faculty Award.





Recipients of the MU Sinclair School of Nursing Faculty Awards for Excellence are, from left, Linda Bullock, research, Rebecca Johnson, teaching, and Lori Popejoy, service.



Meridean Maas, PhD, RN, FAAN received the Honorary Alumnus Award



Recipients of the Student Awards for Excellence are sixth semester, Nicole Hancox; fifth semester, Katherine Deluca; seventh semester, Kimberly Poehlmann and eighth semester, Jana Bopp.



The Humanitarian Nursing Award was presented to Silvia Tribble, left. Marcia Beck received the Alumni Achievement Award and Mary L. Cunningham was named Alumna of the Year.



Staff Award for Excellence recipient was Steve Miller.



RN to BSN Student Award for Excellence recipient was Martha Sydow.



Graduate Student Award for Excellence recipients are, from left, Lisa Lewis, doctoral student; Jan Akright, first-year master's student; and Sadie Mitchell, second-year master's student.



From left are first-year Master's Student Award nominee, Erin Kilburn; RN to BSN Student Award nominee, Gina Gilliland; second-year Master's Student Award nominee, Angie Cornelius; and first-year Master's Student Award nominee, Linda Denny.



“Chancellor  
Richard Wallace  
proudly recog-  
nized the MU  
Sinclair School of  
Nursing for  
obtaining more  
than \$10 million  
dollars in research  
funding, which is a  
1000 percent  
increase over the  
past five years!”

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### FELLOW NURSING ALUMNI MEMBERS:

As the president of the MU Nursing Alumni Organization, I am a member of the board of directors of the MU Alumni Association. How proud I was at the last meeting of the board when Chancellor Richard Wallace proudly recognized the MU Sinclair School of Nursing for obtaining more than \$10 million dollars in research funding, which is a 1000 percent increase over the past five years! That pride was further enhanced at the Annual School of Nursing and Alumni Banquet with all of the displayed accomplishments of students and faculty. And as reflected by the significant attendance of Deans from other colleges and schools and other dignitaries, the School of Nursing is very well-respected on the MU campus. I am honored to continue as President of the Nursing Alumni Organization for another two years and will strive to represent both the Nursing Alumni Organization and the Sinclair School of Nursing to the best of my ability.

The other officers of the MU Nursing Alumni Organization, effective July 1, 2001, are Linda McEwen, BSN '75, president-elect, Jean Thompson, BSN '63, MBA '71, secretary and Donna Otto, BSN '72, MS(N) '81, past-president. Board members are Mary Berhorst, BSN '75, Patty Thornton, BSN '96, MS(N) '01, Beth Traudes, BSN '75, Doris England, BSN '60, Sharon Taylor, BSN '78, MS(N) '81, A. Louise Hart, BSN '63, Sherry Mustapha, BSN '61, Caroline Davis, BSN '65, MS(N) '90, Dee Esry, BSN '55, Karen Backus, BSN '95 and two student representatives. New members elected to the board of directors are Nancy Bartmess, MS(N) '91, eastern state regional representative, and Mary Beck, MS(N) '84, western state regional representative. We are excited about the addition of the two new board members and welcome them. If you are interested in being considered for membership on our board, please contact Caroline Davis, (573) 882-0252 or [DavisC@health.missouri.edu](mailto:DavisC@health.missouri.edu)

The MU Nursing Alumni Organization has again achieved honor status from the MU Alumni Association, which results in additional funds for the organization's operating budget and scholarships. We currently have 836 members which represents 22 percent of the potential membership. For a college or school that is very good. But we can—and should—do better. I would like to challenge you to make an extra effort to urge other MU alumni, or a nursing colleague who supports MU, to join the MU Alumni Association.

If you have any suggestions for activities or projects that you would like to see the organization involved with, please give us a call or send us a note. Please join us in our activities in board meetings as your schedule permits. That information can be found on the Web site for the MU Sinclair School of Nursing.

Best regards,

Sheryl Feutz-Harter, BSN '75, MSN, JD  
President, MU Nursing Alumni Organization



## ALUMNI NEWS ❧

**Ruby L. McCrea, GN '42**, worked at General Hospital in St. Louis from 1942 to 1945. She currently resides in Plasedell, N.Y.

**Judy Stanley Fortune, BSN '64**, reports that after raising three children, she enrolled in the Avila College re-entry course in 1992 and worked in pain management as a case manager in Research Medical Center's Pain Institute. For the past three years, she has been community liaison for the Mid-America Neuroscience Institute in Kansas City.

**Judith Haggard, BSN '67**, is a family nurse practitioner at Southeast Missouri Health Network in Kennett. She received a master's degree from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1999.

**Judy Probst Collier, BSN '69**, of Pasadena, Calif., is the senior perinatal consultant for Kaiser Permanente California Division. She was recently elected to a three-year term on the Governing Council of the Maternal Child Health Section of the American Hospital Association.

**Carla King, BSN '71**, received an MSN in 1977 from University of Missouri Kansas City School of Nursing and practiced nursing for 19 years at Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center, most of the time in nephrology (dialysis and transplant). She graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City Dental

School in 1994, completed a one-year residency (advanced education in general dentistry) and practiced for four and one-half years in Parkville, Mo. In March 2000 she moved her practice to the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City.

**Mary Berhorst, BSN '75**, received the Seventh District, Missouri Nurses Association, Special Achievement in Nursing Award for 2000. She has worked at St. Mary's Health Center in Jefferson City, Mo., for 25 years.

**Patricia L. Cutler, BSN '76, MS(N) '81**, is a psychiatric clinical nurse specialist and lives in Oceanside, Calif. She served as co-investigator in a National Institute of Nursing Research study on "HIV Education and Social Support in Nurse-led Groups." The collaborative project between San Diego V.A. Medical Center and University of California-San Diego was to compile a training manual for peer-counselors. She also co-wrote "Cognitive Therapy for Individuals with Thought Disorders" at San Diego V.A. Medical Center and is currently pursuing personal interests in wellness activities and having fun.

**Laura L. Hermann, BSN '77**, is a nurse practitioner and operates an intractable pain clinic in Grass Valley, Calif.

**Susan Villhardt Vallette, BSN '84**, married Julio D. Vallette, MD '86, in 1985. They reside in Indialantic,

Fla., with their sons, 9 and 12 years of age.

**Amy Miyat Rowland, BSN '89**, and husband Tim of Overland Park, Kan., announce the birth of son Devin Michael on Sept. 30, 2000. He joins sisters Katelyn and Emily.

**Terri J. Weeks Stone, BSN '91**, received a master's degree in 1996 from George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. and a postmaster's Family Nurse Practitioner degree from East Tennessee State University. She and husband, Frederick C. Stone MD, a 1993 graduate of the MU Family Practice Residency Program, have recently relocated to Columbia.

**Traci Layton Freiberg, BSN '93**, received a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh in August 2000. She is a certified family nurse practitioner at the Aurora Walk-In Clinic in Oshkosh.

**Tiffany Meyer, BSN '98**, is an orthopaedic nurse clinician at The Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Mo. In May, she began the master's program at University of Missouri Kansas City to become a pediatric nurse practitioner. As Miss Kansas, she placed as third runner-up to Miss USA 2000.

**Lezlie Butler Dahlke, BSN '99**, is interim supervisor of intensive care at Columbia Regional Hospital in Columbia, Mo.

**Tracy Braun Penfield, BSN '99**, and husband Michael, MBA '01, of Columbia announce the birth of daughter Abigail Grace on Jan. 20.

**Mandy Holthaus, BSN '99**, is enjoying her work in hematology/oncology/stem cell transplant at Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis.

**Rachel Weirich, BSN '00**, of Columbia practices in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit at University Hospital.

## FACULTY NEWS ❧

**Linda Bullock**, assistant professor, was honored by her alma mater, Texas Woman's University, as one of the 100 Outstanding Alumni from its College of Nursing. The recognition was presented to Bullock at a luncheon in Houston in March for her research in violence to women, specifically in battering during pregnancy. She is an author and accomplished teacher, and her research has been instrumental in the National March of Dimes development of a training video for health-care providers demonstrating how to intervene with pregnant women to decrease the effects of intimate partner violence. She joined the faculty in 1997 after completing 10 years in public health in New Zealand.

**Lawrence Ganong**, professor of nursing and of human development and family studies, was presented with an award for his lifetime contributions to stepfamilies at the National Conference on Stepfamilies held in New

## SINCLAIR SCHOOL OF NURSING

## Upcoming 2001 Conferences

## NURSING OUTREACH &amp; DISTANCE EDUCATION

- Nursing Education/Staff Development, Oct. 11-12, Ramada Inn, Columbia.
- Perioperative Nursing, Nov. 2-3, Ramada Inn, Columbia.
- Psychiatric Nursing, Nov. 16, Ramada Inn, Columbia.
- Gerontological Nursing, Dec. 6-7, Ramada Inn, Columbia.

For a brochure

Phone (573) 882-0215

E-mail PickettJ@missouri.edu.

Additional information on our Nursing Outreach & Distance Education offerings may be found on our Web site at: [www.hsc.missouri.edu/~son/node](http://www.hsc.missouri.edu/~son/node)

Orleans in February. Ganong and his colleague, Marilyn Coleman, professor of human development and family studies, were recognized for their extensive research during the past two decades on remarriage and stepfamilies. They have co-written three books, numerous articles and book chapters on postdivorce family relationships and remarried families. Ganong has been with the School of Nursing since 1980 and is co-director of the doctoral program.

**Rebecca Johnson**, Millsap Professor of Gerontological Nursing and Public Policy and director of the School of Nursing Center on Aging, was honored by the Midwest Nursing Research Society for her research and scholarly work related to the health and well-being of older adults. In a presentation in

Cleveland in March, Johnson was presented with the MNRS Gerontological Nurse Researcher award. She holds an adjunct appointment in MU's College of Veterinary Medicine and is working with its Center for the Study of Animal Wellness.

**Deidre Wipke-Tevis**, BSN '85, an assistant professor, was honored by the Society for Vascular Nursing with its Distinguished Service Award in recognition of her outstanding leadership, participation and contributions toward achieving the goals of the society. The award was presented at the membership meeting during the annual national symposium held in April in Minneapolis. Wipke-Tevis has been a member of the society since 1987 and serves on the board of directors. She is currently on the editorial board of the *Journal*

of *Vascular Nursing*. She is a tireless advocate for the support of research in vascular nursing and is coordinating the Research Priorities in Vascular Nursing Survey as well as a new column in the *Journal of Vascular Nursing* titled "Focus on Research."

Wipke-Tevis also was honored earlier this year for her research on "Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment Practices in Long Term Care Facilities," which she presented at the 14th Annual Symposium on Advanced Wound Care and Medical Research Forum on Wound Repair in Las Vegas. Four awards are given each year: two for clinical research and two for medical research. Of the 100 abstracts submitted, Wipke-Tevis' work was selected to receive the Investigator's Award for Best Clinical Research. She received a PhD in physiological nursing from the University of California-San Francisco and has been on the faculty since 1996.

## IN MEMORIAM



**Jill Adair Wells**, BSN '86, died at age 37 on March 28 in Woodland Park, Colo. Following graduation, she worked in thoracic care at

University Hospital and Clinics. After moving to Colorado, she worked for Penrose-St. Francis Hospital system for 13 years. The hospital issued the following release:

On March 28, Penrose-St. Francis Health Service lost one of its shining stars. Jill Wells had been our employee since 1987. She was an expert ICU nurse whose care and devotion to her patients endeared her to not only those to whom she provided care, but to the staff and physicians with whom she worked. She became the clinical manager of the Intensive Care Unit at St. Francis Hospital, where she directed a busy trauma center. She stayed in that position until the birth of her first child, Tanner.

In order to work part time she became a risk manager for the entire Penrose-St. Francis Health Service. She was an intelligent clinician, which allowed her to see and correct issues quickly before they became problems. The staff and physicians respected her opinions and openness to look at all sides of problems.

As everyone grieves the loss of our friend, she will always be remembered as one of our best and brightest.

Her survivors include her husband, Mike, two sons, Tanner and Jacob of Woodland Park, Colo., her parents Walter and Joyce Evenson and sister, Joy Toler of Columbia.



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Take this opportunity to honor and recognize the many achievements and accomplishments of your colleagues and fellow alumni. Awards being presented in 2002 are:

- Citation of Merit
- Alumnus of the Year
- Alumni Achievement Award
- Humanitarian Nursing Award

### CITATION OF MERIT

The Citation of Merit is a campuswide award and is the most prestigious award presented by the MU Nursing Alumni Organization. This recognition is presented every other year, on the EVEN years. Criteria are:

- Graduate from the MU School of Nursing.
- Have demonstrated outstanding achievement in nursing.
- Have demonstrated continued interest and support of the School of Nursing.
- Have made a substantial contribution to the nursing profession through the lifetime or corpus of their career.
- Be approved by the MU Alumni Association board of directors.
- Be present to receive award.

### ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

This award is presented annually.

Criteria are:

- Graduate from MU School of Nursing.
- Have distinguished him/herself in an exceptional way that brings recognition of achievement in nursing through any of the following: leadership, publication, education, research, clinical practice, education and professionalism.
- Continued interest and evidence of support, including time, effort, and/or monetary contributions toward the enhancement of the MU School of Nursing's reputation.
- Be approved by the MU Nursing Alumni Organization's board of directors.
- Be present to receive award.

### ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is presented annually.

Criteria describes recognition given by the MU Nursing Alumni Organization for significant accomplishment in nursing during the first five years post degree, BSN, MS(N) or PhD.

- Graduate from MU School of Nursing.
- Significant achievement in nursing or support of the nursing profession.
- Continued interest and support of the MU School of Nursing; enhancement of the school's reputation.
- Have great potential for further continued achievement in the nursing profession.
- Be approved by MU Nursing Alumni Organization's board of

directors.

- Be present to receive award.

### HUMANITARIAN NURSING AWARD

Criteria are:

- Graduate from MU School of Nursing
- Recipient administers to individuals/families in need of support and care through volunteer time and effort.
- Applies a high level of nursing knowledge, compassion and caring to vulnerable populations on an ongoing basis.
- Demonstrates a continued interest in the MU Sinclair School of Nursing and students.
- Be approved by MU Nursing Alumni Organization board of directors.
- Be present to receive award.

Complete nomination form and send with two letters of support and a resume by Nov. 30, 2001. Form may be duplicated. Questions may be directed to Editor, *Missouri Nursing* at DavisC@health.missouri.edu

## 2002 ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATION FORM

### CITATION OF MERIT

### ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

### ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

### HUMANITARIAN NURSING AWARD

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: work \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Degree and year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Other colleges attended-degrees obtained \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination submitted by:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: work \_\_\_\_\_ home \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline: Nov. 30, 2001 for 2002 awards**

Send this form, two letters of support and a resume to:

MU Nursing Alumni Award  
123 Reynolds Alumni Center  
Columbia, MO 65211

## Recently Funded Research, Training, and Public Service Grants and Contracts

**Principal Investigator/  
Co-Investigator/  
Director**

**Project Title**

**Funding Source**

**Award**

JoAnne Banks-Wallace	Walk the Talk: A Nursing Intervention for Black Women	National Institutes of Health	\$143,875
Connie Brooks	Lactation Management Curriculum	Missouri Department of Health	\$120,000
Beth Geden	Prenatal Drug Prevalence Study: Data Collection and Monitoring	Missouri Department of Health	\$111,226
Deidre Wipke-Tevis	Skin Microvascular Responses to Compression and Leg Elevation	American Heart Institute	\$105,626
Rebecca Johnson and Richard Meadows	Neurochemical Indicators of the Human Animal Bond (managed by the Center for the Study of Animal Wellness, College of Veterinary Medicine)	VPI Skeeter Foundation	\$100,000
Roxanne McDaniel	Advanced Education Nursing Traineeship Program	Health Resources and Services Administration	\$68,170
Shirley Farrah	Infant Mortality Summit Conference	Missouri Department of Health	\$56,091
Shirley Farrah	Domestic Violence: A Health Care Imperative Conference 2001	Missouri Department of Health	\$40,602
Davina Porock	Multidisciplinary Treatment for Cancer Fatigue: A Pilot Study	University of Missouri System Research Board	\$39,000
Karen Marek	Community-based Aging in Place: A Pilot Study	Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center	\$12,000
Jane Armer	Lymphedema among Older Breast Cancer Survivors: Physiological and Symptom Measurement	Gerontological Nursing Interventions Research Center	\$8,000
Jane Bostick	Effect of Nursing Personnel on Nursing Home Care Quality	Midwest Nursing Research Society	\$5,000
Deidre Wipke-Tevis	Mentoring Grant in Gerontological Nursing Research	University of Iowa	\$1,500
Victoria Grando	Mentoring Grant in Gerontological Nursing Research	University of Iowa	\$1,500
Linda Bullock	Nancy Fugate Woods Lectures—Midlife Women, Their Health and Health Seeking Behavior; Academic Health Centers and Women's Health	Lectures Committee	\$300
Jane Armer	Lilian Nail Lecture—Cancer Survivorship in the New Millennium	Lectures Committee	\$300



# Visiting Professor Enhances Program



Yang-Sook Hah

Part of the MU Sinclair School of Nursing's commitment to academic excellence involves opening students' eyes to new experiences and perspectives. While some students expand their frame of reference through travel as part of the Cultural Expeditions in Nursing course, others find their horizons broadened by studying under and working beside the visiting faculty who

enhance the school's diverse population.

The most recent faculty addition from afar came last spring with the arrival of Yang-Sook Hah, professor of nursing from Seoul National University of Korea. This is Hah's second professional experience abroad – in 1987 she spent a year as a visiting scholar at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

"Having international visiting faculty really enriches the cultural climate for students, faculty and staff. It is such a joy having Dr. Hah experience the learning environment at our school," says Dean Rose Porter.

Hah's chief areas of expertise and academic interest lie in psychiatric and gerontological nursing. She began her career as a psychiatric nurse at Seoul National University Hospital and is now vice president of the Korean Association of Psychosocial Rehabilitation, and president-elect of the Korean Association of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners. Other professional affiliations have included her role on the Planning Committee of the Korean Nurses Academic Society, chief of the Education and Training Committee for the Korean Dementia Association, and chair of the Korean Psychiatric Mental Health Nurses' Academic Society.

"It is widely known that the quality of mental-health service in Korea needs significant improvement, and the adoption of qualified case management is urgent," Hah says, explaining the basis for her focus on mental health care. Upon her return, she plans to develop a community-based psychosocial rehabilitative nursing service for the mentally ill.

To prepare for this task, Hah will spend time in similar community-based clinical settings in Columbia and conduct

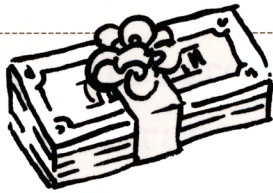
research on elderly individuals who suffer from dementia and the challenges faced by their caregivers. She notes that the school's mental health nurse practitioner program and the many faculty at the school who research, practice and teach about issues related to aging provide an excellent opportunity for her to expand her own research among a group of academic peers.

Porter considers Hah's tenure at the school to be a mutually beneficial arrangement. "Gerontology and mental health are both areas in which our faculty expertise is developing, and we are attracting and increasing number of students with clinical and research goals related to these areas," says Porter. "Dr. Hah's work and knowledge base in these fields are a valuable asset to the school."

During her year at MU, Hah will participate as a visitor in numerous undergraduate and graduate classes. In Korea she leads undergraduates in courses on gerontological nursing (a subject in which the MU Sinclair School of Nursing is gaining international prestige), psychiatric mental health nursing, and interpersonal relationships and communications. On the graduate level, she teaches advanced courses in gerontological nursing, community mental health nursing and psychiatric mental health nursing, as well as stress management and management of health problems in the elderly.

In recent years, Hah's prolific research has been published in a variety of scientific and professional journals. Her articles include studies titled "The Concept Analysis of Hope Among Cancer Patients Undergoing Chemotherapy," "Depressed Symptoms in a Korean Rural Sample: Risk Factor and Factor Structure," and "A Study of the Effectiveness of Home Care Services in the Community."

She has also written several books, including *Home Care Nursing* (Seoul National University Press) and *Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing* (Hyunmoon Publishing Co.).



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